

\$80,000 OF DIAMONDS IN MUSICAS' BOOTY

Got Gems on Credit From All
Over Country Before
They Flew.

SOME FOUND IN PAWN

Habeas Corpus Writs in New Or-
leans Come Up Monday—
Two Girls May Be Freed.

The Muscas, that family which, it is charged, was versatile enough to swindle the big banks of New York out of a million or two in less than six months, cleared up an extra \$80,000 in diamond frauds in the last three weeks they were residents of New York, according to a story told yesterday by Ezra Prentice, the receiver.

The game was simple, as recounted by Mr. Prentice, especially in the light of the fact that the credit of the Muscas and of the United States Hair Company was still good. It seems that about a fortnight before their hasty departure for New Orleans the Muscas sent out circulars to various diamond merchants throughout the country announcing themselves in the diamond market.

Gems to the value of \$80,000, and this sum may amount to \$100,000, were delivered to them on credit, they being vouched for by banks with which they did business. It seems apparent, the receiver thinks, that they intended to pawn all these diamonds before leaving, but in the final haste of departure did not have time to clean up the job.

Anyway, diamonds on which they had raised about \$1,000 have been found in

local pawnshops, and detectives are looking for more. Yesterday's discovery accounts for the fact that a number of unset diamonds were found in the Muscas' possession when they were arrested in New Orleans. Mr. Prentice would not divulge the names of the merchants who had been thus swindled.

Discoveries were made yesterday which led B. W. B. Brown, the special receiver appointed for the United States Hair Company, to believe that certain New York business men associated with the Muscas not only were conscious of the fraud being perpetrated against local and European banks but were receiving a share of the loot.

Mr. Brown was led to this belief by bank entries which show large sums paid to the men in question for no apparent value received. The names of the suspects, he said, must be kept secret until sufficient evidence is found against them to justify arrests. It was said, however, that they are men up to now of good repute in the business world. They are being watched by Burns operatives.

Philip S. Saltin, an attorney with offices at 258 Broadway, was retained by Antonio Musca yesterday to look after the interests of the family in this city. Mr. Saltin said that he believed there was considerable property belonging to the family which will be found to be worth a large sum. Italian groceries alone, now in bond in New York warehouses, he thinks, will amount to \$40,000 in value.

The continued search of the two receivers, however, did not give them much encouragement. The day revealed the fact that practically all the hair stored in the big five-story warehouse of the firm in Front street is worth little or nothing. Furthermore, the report of an expert on the hair stored in the stables at the Bay Ridge residence said it was "hair sweepings," worth perhaps a cent a pound.

When a box of what seemed to be unset large pearls was recovered yesterday by mail at the office of Antonio Musca, it was hoped momentarily that an asset of some worth had finally turned up. The gems turned out to be cheap imitations, worth in all perhaps 30 cents. They had been sent from Cincinnati.

Burns detectives found 250 cases of

vermicelli and macaroni belonging to the Muscas on Pier 21 at the foot of Duane street, which was about the only thing discovered all the day that had any tangible value.

From various sources yesterday the life history of Antonio Musca was patched together. He came to New York thirty years ago with his bride, from Naples, and started in as a barber. After a few years he began the business of importing Italian merchandise, and it was his knowledge of hair, acquired in the tonsorial parlor, which finally led him into that business.

Mr. Saltin, who says he has represented the Muscas in many civil cases and has known Antonio for many years, said that the latter had been in poor health since his son's conviction in the cheese smuggling case and since that time had spent much of his time in Europe, leaving the active conduct of the various business enterprises almost entirely in the hands of his son Philip. A 1913 edition of the laws regarding international extradition was found yesterday in Philip Musca's desk. It indicated Honduras, the place for which the family was headed when arrested, as probably the safest place in the world for people seeking a refuge out of their own country.

MAY FREE MUSICA GIRLS.

No Criminal Charges Against Them
In New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, March 22.—Judge Foster of the United States District Court today appointed Ezra Prentice of New York as receiver for the firm of Musca & Son, with authority to take and receive immediate possession of all property belonging to the firm and its members in the court's jurisdiction.

Adams & Generali, attorneys for the Muscas, then applied for habeas corpus writs before the Criminal District Court for each of the six members of the family. The judge fixed Monday morning for argument on the writs.

George Williams, counsel for Grace and Louise Musca, asked for their discharge, alleging that there are no criminal charges pending against them.

Their case was also fixed for Monday morning, when the girls are likely to be released.

Grace Musca, through her lawyer, also filed a demand for \$2,500 of \$15,000 taken from her to be used for legal expenses. Under these suits none of the prisoners can be turned over to the New York detectives until late Monday. The suit brought against the Muscas in the United States District Court by Dufour & Dufour of this city is for \$200,000, claimed by the Bank of Montreal, the Anglo Southern American Bank, Brown Bros. and the Bank of Manhattan, as money owed them by Anthony and Philip Musca.

OIL ON ACTOR'S HEAD.

Pot Struck First and Collin Campbell Went to Hospital.

Collin Campbell, 32 years old, an actor, living at 255 West Fifth street, and a pot of oil met at right angles late yesterday afternoon in front of a large sign at 229 Sixth avenue near Forty-second street.

The actor was walking along the sidewalk. The pot dropped from the slippery fingers of a man at work on an advertising sign bearing the inscription, "Keeps little hairs from getting big."

It struck Mr. Campbell on his head, causing a big hurt, in which Dr. Irving of the New York Hospital put three stitches.

DESTROYER BENHAM LAUNCHED.

She Is Christened by Miss Edith Wallace Benham.

PHILADELPHIA, March 22.—The torpedo boat destroyer Benham, the last of four sister ships built at the Cramp shipyards, was launched on the Delaware today in the presence of many from Philadelphia and Washington. As the Benham slid down the ways Miss Edith Wallace Benham, daughter of Rear Admiral Andrew E. K. Benham, for whom the craft was named, christened her with the customary bottle of champagne.

The Benham, which is of the same type as the Raleigh, Parker and Astwin, all recently put into commission, cost \$750,100. She will have a speed of 30 knots, is 305 feet long, 31 feet wide and has a displacement of 1,050 tons.

BULL MOOSE CAUCUS TO BE WIDE OPEN

Leaders in Washington Say
They Wish All the Pub-
licity Possible.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Announcement was made today that the Bull Moose conference here on April 2 will be open to the press and the public.

The decision of the Bull Moose to hold an "open meeting" was reached at a conference in which Representatives Murdock of Kansas, Falconer of Washington and Hinckley of Illinois participated. All agreed that the political caucus behind closed doors was bad in principle and that the innovation of an open conference should be introduced by the Progressives.

Representative Falconer, who is a recruit in the House, made this statement: "I understand the custom here has been to close the doors when either of the old parties met for purposes of organization. The Progressives are, I think, unanimous in the belief that there is nothing in the details of the organization for effective legislative work that calls for the closed door caucus."

"The public is interested in matters of organization in Congress and is entitled to know everything of the methods of procedure in such organizations. The one thing which more than any other causes the general public to become critical of men engaged in public service is the disposition of those men to exclude the public from their deliberations in organization and in consideration of public questions."

"The Progressive party is willing to have all publicity possible given not only to the organization work in the different States but to the details of the organization and legislative work here in Washington during the sessions of

Congress. We have taken our stand on questions of vital interest to the public and we feel that in carrying out the program of the Progressive party we can get much help and many vital suggestions from the public."

Representative Murdock said: "I endorse the idea of an open conference. The new movement has nothing to conceal. It has no advantage to gain by secrecy. Everything shall be open and above board. The foundation stone upon which the whole superstructure of special privilege, corruption and class government has been reared in this country has been the secret caucus."

"Every politician knows this to be true. Just as he knows that at the bottom of the whole system has been a corrupting secrecy completely out of accord with the genius of a republican form of government. It is a wonder that popular patience has endured the infamy so long."

BIG BAIL FOR TAXI GUNMEN.

Four Avenue A Bandits Were Jack
Zelig Gangsters.

The four taxicab bandits who kept up a running fire of shots with police on Avenue A early yesterday morning were arraigned before Magistrate Corrigan in Essex Market court and held in \$10,000 bail each on charges of robbery and felonious assault. They will have a hearing on Monday. The police are still looking for three men who escaped.

Deputy Commissioner Dougherty talked with the four prisoners yesterday. He said they had no police records, but at one time or another they had been associated with Jack Zelig, who was shot and killed by Red Phil Davidson.

Samuel Goldstein, the chauffeur, who refused to stop his machine when ordered to do so by policemen, pleaded being a member of the gang. Lawyer Harry Kopp pleaded with Magistrate Corrigan to have his bail diminished, saying his position in the case was similar to that of Libby and Shapiro in the Rosenthal shooting. The court refused. According to Goldstein, he answered a call from a cafe in East Houston street and got seven men there.

The auto used by the robbers bore the number N. Y. 13161. The police believe it to be a stolen car.

SOCIALISM THE TOPIC AT REPUBLICAN CLUB

Author Walling Calls President
Wilson a Revolutionary
in Politics.

Socialism was the subject for discussion yesterday at the Republican Club, 51 West Forty-fourth street. Almost every point of view in considering the topic was presented, from individualism to advanced Socialism.

English Walling, a Socialist speaker and author, characterized as revolutionary and fundamentally new in thought President Wilson's statement "We must count the human cost of industry."

He declared that this expression described the new progressive movement in politics. But this movement, according to Walling, would only increase profits more rapidly than wages and hence is not socialistic.

Socialists, he said, consider the present so-called "State Socialism" really "State Capitalism," with only incidental benefit to labor. What the Socialists want in his opinion, is to see the profits from public ownership devoted to a general social reform that would give an equal opportunity to all.

Prof. T. N. Carver of the economics department at Harvard considered socialism economically impossible because based on the false theory that labor alone produces wealth. He favored a stricter regulation of marriage and immigration in order to limit and improve the labor supply.

Dr. Edwin Slosson, editor of the Independent, called socialism theoretical and imaginary. Algonquin Lee, former editor of the Fall, said Socialists care little for immediate tangible results, but are steadily training their army for Armageddon. To the mind of the Rev. Dr. J. W. Hill, president of the International Peace Forum, socialism spells atheism and violent revolution.

"How They Solved It!"



"My dear, our evenings are dead slow"

Scene I

Living Room in Everyman's Home
Time—Any Evening
Characters—Mr. & Mrs. Everyman

Mr. Everyman has finished reading the evening paper which lies upon the floor beside his chair. He is leaning the end of his after-dinner cigar and his attitude is frankly bored. Mrs. Everyman is doing fancy work.

Mr. E.—(failing to suppress a yawn) "My dear, you will pardon me for saying it, but our evenings have reached a point where they are dead slow."

Mrs. E.—(looking up from her work) "What shall we do? I'll do anything you like. Shall we play cards?"

Mr. E.—"Thanks, no. Two handed games except cribbage, are no good and I'm so tired of cribbage that I hate the sight of the board."

Mrs. E.—"Very well. Shall we go out? Let's go and see George and May."

Mr. E.—"No, I don't want to go out. I'm too tired to begin with, and what's more I don't like this idea that if we want entertainment, we've got to go to some one else's home to find it. Can't you play something?"

Mrs. E.—"I'm awfully sorry, dear, but I'm all out of practice. You know I haven't had time to keep up my music since we were married."

Mr. E.—"Well, there's one thing sure. I'm glad we bought that piano. It's been a fine investment all right. It cost three hundred and fifty dollars and I guess we've used it twice. One hundred and seventy-five dollars per time, which is going some."

Mrs. E.—"I wish I could play. I miss our music as much as you do. (pauses and then apparently seized with a new idea, proceeds with animation) I'll tell you what! Why don't we do what the Loudons did—exchange our piano for a Pianola Piano. I called on Grace this afternoon and found Alice, her little girl, playing dance-music for a half dozen other children. Grace says that Will and she use their Pianola Piano constantly. They have a wonderful assortment of music—most of it music I never could play even when I was in constant practice. Grace played a Chopin nocturne for me that was simply ravishing."

Mr. E.—"That sounds good to me. Why on earth didn't we think of it before? You find out from Grace where Will bought his instrument and I'll meet you there tomorrow afternoon. If they don't cost too much we'll get one."



"Imagine having Paderewski's own interpretation to guide one"

Scene II

Demonstration Salon—Aeolian Hall
Time—The following afternoon
Characters—Mr. & Mrs. Everyman
and Mr. Hoyt, an Aeolian Salesman

A dozen or more selections have been played upon the Pianola Piano, including such pieces as—Nerius' "Day in Venice," Rubinstein's "Kammen's Ostrou," Chaminade's "Soleil d'Or," and Victor Herbert's "Bathing," etc. Both Mr. and Mrs. Everyman have tried their skill with the instrument and have become enthusiastic converts.

Mrs. E.—"Isn't it too splendid? Think of your playing a Liszt rhapsody and playing it well, too, with all the changes of tempo and expression. I think the Metrostyle is the most marvelous thing about the instrument. Imagine having Paderewski's own interpretation to guide one as I had when I played that Chopin etude."

Mr. E.—(to salesman) "You say this instrument is like the one Mr. Loudon has. I think he said his cost \$650."

Salesman—"Yes, I had it looked up. He purchased one of the \$650 models. This is a similar instrument."

Mr. E.—"Have you anything less expensive?"

Salesman—"Yes, I can give you a player-piano, an excellent instrument, for \$450. Our cheapest Pianola Piano is \$550. I will show you one."

Mr. E.—"No, I won't bother. I think this is what I want—that is if the terms of payment are not too steep. I understand I can make payments monthly."

Salesman—"The terms of payment on this instrument are \$35.00 down and \$17.50 monthly. On the cheaper instruments the payment runs as low as fifteen dollars down and twelve dollars monthly."

Mr. E.—"Well, I guess I can stand \$17.50 a month all right. How about my old piano? What'll you do about that? I'd like to turn it in as part payment toward this instrument. Do you do that sort of thing?"

Salesman—"Yes, we take old instruments in exchange. Of course I'll have to see your piano before I can tell you how much we can allow you for it."

Mr. E.—(rising to go) "That's all right. Here's my address. You can send a man up at any time, but I'd like to arrange so as to have the instrument in the house by Sunday surely."



"It seems almost too good to be true"

Scene III

Same as Scene I, except that the old piano has gone and a new Pianola Piano has taken its place.
Time—11:45 o'clock Saturday evening
Characters—Mr. & Mrs. Everyman

Mrs. E.—(to her husband who has just finished the piece he has been playing) "That must be the last, Tom—do you know that it is nearly midnight?"

Mr. E.—(looking at his watch) "By jove, you're right! A quarter to twelve! I wouldn't have believed it. I guess we'll have to call it off for the night. Say, that's what I call having a "regular" time! What do you think of your hubby as a star performer? Pretty good, eh? Didn't I show some class in that last little bit of ragtime?"

Mrs. E.—"It's all wonderful. It seems almost too good to be true. Here are you who don't know the first thing about music and suddenly without a moment's study or an hour's practice, you can play anything and play well, too. It has been glorious—you have had your ragtime and the popular airs you are so fond of, and I have had Chopin, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Brahms and all the other great composers whose works I love so well. It is just like a dream."

Mr. E.—"Well, it may have been a dream, but if it was, it was a bully one, and we're going to have a whole lot more just like it."

Mrs. E.—"Yes, dear. That's the nicest part of it. This is only the beginning."

Throughout the entire civilized world, scenes similar to the above are being enacted daily. The Pianola Piano is replacing the "Silent Piano" in thousands upon thousands of homes. You may well ask yourself if there is not here a suggestion for brightening and enlivening your own and your family's home-life. The only genuine Pianola Player-pianos are the Steinway, Steck, Wheelock, Stuyvesant, Stroud and famous Weber. They cost from \$550 upward and may be purchased on easy monthly payments.

The GENUINE PIANOLA PLAYER-PIANO may be obtained, in Manhattan, ONLY at Aeolian Hall

THE AEOLIAN COMPANY

Aeolian Hall, 29-31-33 W. 42nd St.

Opposite Public Library